

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 17-27 are pending in this application. The issues outstanding in this application are as follows:

- Claims 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112(¶2) as being indefinite.
- Claims 17-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated over Paske (U.S. Patent No. 6,231,525).
- Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Paske (U.S. Patent No. 6,231,525).

I. Indefinite

Applicant addressed the indefiniteness rejection by amending claims 26 and 27.

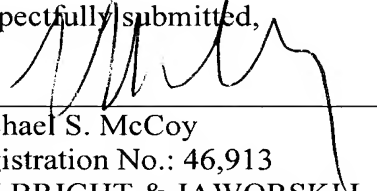
II. Anticipation and Obviousness

All claims stand rejected as being anticipated or obvious in light of Paske. Applicant respectfully traverses. Paske does not disclose applying force to a slick surface. Paske discloses applying forces to a fixture that is designed such that “force projections 19, 20, and 21 meet at a point 22.” Col. 8, lines 38-40. This is important to the method of Paske because such a design “minimizes side loadings.” Col. 8, line 40. Applicant claims the advantage of applying force to a slick surface. Applying force to a slick surface minimizes the side loads without the need to manage the direction of the force projections. Applicant has amended the claims to more specifically note that the force is applied to a slick surface.

In view of the above, applicant believes each of the presently pending claim is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections and to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P02511US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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